

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2353

Introduced by Assembly Member McCarty

February 18, 2016

An act to add Article 3.2 (commencing with Section 44475) to Chapter 3 of Part 25 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Education Code, relating to teacher professional development.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2353, as introduced, McCarty. Teacher professional development: culturally responsive instruction.

Existing law establishes various programs of professional development for teachers, including the California Beginning Teacher Support and Assessment System, and requires the State Department of Education to issue a request for proposals to contract for the development of standards for professional development for educators and instructional leaders.

This bill would require the department to develop a curriculum for professional development in covering culturally responsive instruction and make this curriculum available as part of its continuing education and professional development programs for teachers. The bill would state legislative findings and declarations relating to the importance of culturally responsive teaching.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:

(a) Culture is essential to learning.

(b) Culture plays a role not only in communicating and receiving information, but also in shaping the thinking process of groups and individuals.

(c) A pedagogy that acknowledges, responds to, and celebrates fundamental cultures offers full, equitable access to education for pupils from all cultures.

(d) Culturally responsive teaching is a pedagogy that recognizes the importance of including pupils' cultural references in all aspects of learning.

(e) Culturally responsive teaching acknowledges the legitimacy of a pupil's cultural heritage that shapes dispositions and attitudes.

(f) Culturally responsive teaching builds bridges of meaningfulness between home and school.

(g) Culturally responsive teaching uses a wide variety of instructional strategies that are connected to learning styles.

(h) Culturally responsive teaching incorporates multicultural information, books, and other educational resources.

(i) Culturally responsive teaching promotes the idea of the classroom family and all pupils are in it together.

(j) Culturally responsive teaching teaches pupils that they can be successful and that they are appreciated by educators who have high expectations of them.

(k) Culturally responsive teaching develops the social consciousness of pupils to better handle the world of prejudice and racism.

SEC. 2. Article 3.2 (commencing with Section 44475) is added to Chapter 3 of Part 25 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Education Code, to read:

Article 3.2. Professional Development in Culturally Responsive Instruction

44475. The department shall develop a curriculum for professional development in covering culturally responsive instruction and make this curriculum available as part of the

- 1 department's continuing education and professional development
- 2 programs for teachers.

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